Amendments to the Specification:

Without prejudice or disclaimer, please replace the section titled "Brief Description of Drawing", starting at page 9, line 12 and ending at page 10, line 33, with the following rewritten section:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The present invention will be further understood from the following description with reference to the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 shows a partial restriction map of the *M. catarrhalis* strain M35 *tbpB* gene;

Figure 2 shows the nucleotide sequence of the *tbpB* gene (SEQ ID NO: 1) and deduced amino acid sequence of the Tbp2 protein of *M. catarrhalis* strain M35 (SEQ ID NO: 2);

Figure 3 shows a partial restriction map of the *tbpB* gene for *M. catarrhalis* strain 3;

Figure 4 shows the nucleotide sequence of *tbpB* gene (SEQ ID NO: 3) and the deduced amino acid sequence of the Tbp2 protein of *M. catarrhalis* strain 3 (SEQ ID NO: 4);

Figure 5 shows a partial restriction map of the *tbpB* genes for *M. catarrhalis* strain LES1;

Figure 6 shows the nucleotide sequence of the *tbpB* gene (SEQ ID NO: 5) and deduced amino acid sequence of the Tbp2 *M. catarrhalis* strain LES1 (SEQ ID NO: 6);

Figure 7 shows an alignment of the Tbp2 proteins from strains 4223 (SEQ ID NO: 7) , R1 (SEQ ID NO: 8) , M35 (SEQ ID NO: 2), LES1 (SEQ ID NO: 6), Q8 (SEQ ID NO: 9) and 3 (SEQ ID NO: 4). Dots indicate identical residues and spaces have been introduced to maximize the sequence alignment. Underlining indicates those sequences conserved amongst the *M. catarrhalis* Tbp2 proteins and those from *A. pleuropneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, *N. gonorrhoeae*, *N. meningitidis* and *P. haemolytica* (SEQ ID NOS: 7, 8 and 9 are disclosed in WO 97/32380);

Figure 8 shows the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequences of the *M. catarrhalis* strain 4223 *tbpA* - *orf3* - tbpB gene locus (SEQ ID NO: 10 - entire gene locus; SEQ ID NO: 11 - *tbpA* coding sequence; SEQ ID NO: 12 - deduced amino acid sequence of TbpA; SEQ ID NO: 13 - *orf3* coding sequence; SEQ ID NO: 14 - deduced amino acid

sequence of ORF3; SEQ ID NO: 15 - *tbpB* coding sequence; SEQ ID NO: 7 - deduced amino acid sequence of Tbp2); and

Figure 9 shows an alignment of the ORF3 proteins from *M. catarrhalis* strains 4223 (SEQ ID NO: 14) and Q8 (SEQ ID NO: 16). Dots indicate identical residues; .

~~Figure 10 shows a restriction map of clone LEM3-24 the construction of which is described in WO 97/32380 (ATCC deposit No. 97,381 deposited December 4, 1995) showing the location of the *orf3* gene in addition to the *tbpA* and *tbpB* genes of *M. catarrhalis* strain 4223 (cf. Figure 2 of WO 96/32380); and~~

~~Figure 11 shows a restriction map of clone SLRD-A the construction of which is described in WO 97/32380 (ATCC deposit No. 97,381 deposited December 4, 1995), showing the locations of the *orf3* gene in addition to the *tbpA* and *tbpB* genes of *M. catarrhalis* strain Q8.~~

Without prejudice or disclaimer, please replace the paragraph starting at page 32, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The intergenic region was sequenced for strains 4223 and Q8 and a single open reading frame was identified. This *orf*, identified as *orf3*, was located about 1 kb downstream of *tbpA* and about 273 bp upstream of *tbpB* in each genome ~~(Figure 10 – strain 4223; Figure 11 – strain Q8)~~. The nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequences of the entire 4223 *tbpA* - orf3 - *tbpB* gene loci are shown in Figure 8. The encoded 4223 and Q8 ORF3 proteins are 98% identical, 512 amino acid proteins, of molecular weight 58.1 kDa and 57.9 kDa, respectively. The alignment of the ORF3 protein sequences is shown in Figure 9.